The State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education held a work session on Thursday, June 21, 2012 in the Cabinet Room of the Townsend Building, Dover, Delaware.

Present were: Dr. Teri Quinn Gray, President; G. Patrick Heffernan, Randall L. Hughes, II, Barbara B. Rutt, Dr. Terry M. Whittaker, and Mark Murphy, Executive Secretary to the State Board of Education and Secretary of Education. Donna R. Johnson, State Board Executive Director, was also in attendance. Catherine Hickey, Deputy Attorney General and legal counsel for the State Board, also attended.

President Gray called the work session to order at 3:39 p.m.

Discussion of Board's Strategic Plan with Secretary of Education

The work session began with introductions and each Board member provided Secretary Murphy with a short biographical sketch about themselves. Board members also addressed what they felt were the key educational issues facing our state. Secretary Murphy was asked to highlight his first twenty-one days and his values in education. Mr. Murphy spoke of the Common Core State Standards and the need for Delaware to be further along in the process. He stated that our role as leaders is to make sure that those closest to our children make great decisions. Secretary Murphy indicated that he has participated in performance evaluations for all nineteen school districts. There was discussion among the Board members and Secretary Murphy on the challenges the State faces and changes due to the ESEA waiver. President Gray provided an overview of the collaborative initiatives that the Board and the Department have been working on including the charter school framework. Dr. Gray noted that the charter school framework is what the Board would expect from any excellent school and could be transferred to traditional public schools.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to adjourn the work session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried unanimously. The work session adjourned at 4:50 p.m.